

Amateur Radio is recognized as a "last resort" backup for professional emergency radio systems. Over many years Ham Operators have stepped into gaps left by traditional radio and saved lives or insured progress in emergency situations. While BPL is good from a competitive viewpoint, the FCC should recognize that the narrow bands of frequencies used by Amateur Radio need protection. Therefore, final licensing needs to require that BPL systems block/notch out these bands. This is easily done with simple lists in the software and does not materially effect the throughput of the system. The other element which has received little attention, is the possibility of a general increase in the noise floor of the HF spectrum since even low power signals that are radiated can propagate thousands of miles. Thus a citizen in Africa may find it difficult to listen to a shortwave broadcast due to propagated radiation from the USA. We can't simply cast out the shortwave spectrum for the development of a competitive broadband system. Serious thought is needed to insure that possible impacts are not forthcoming beyond the point where the amount of investment prevents change.

Thank you for your attention.

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